WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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     1. A system, comprising:

     a content information database which stores therein content information about contents associated with broadcast programs on a channel-and-

10   time-specific basis that corresponds to a channel and a time of each broadcast program, said content information including at least one of content guide information descriptive of the contents and content location information indicative of locations of the

15   contents on a network; and

     a content selecting unit which searches in said content information database for the content information of a specific channel and a specific time in response to a request from a user terminal

20   indicating at least one of the specific channel and the specific time in a direct or indirect manner, and provides the content information of the specific channel and the specific time to the user terminal.

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     2. The system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a content providing server which

30   provides the user terminal with the contents that correspond to the content information of the specific channel and the specific time.

3. The system as claimed in claim 2,
wherein the contents provided to the user terminal
are identified by the content location information.

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4. The system as claimed in claim 1,
further comprising a time marking unit which
10   indicates a time of a present instant, wherein said
content selecting unit searches in said content
information database for the content information of
the specific channel specified by the request from
the user terminal and the specific time indicated by
15   said time marking unit.

20   5. The system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the specific channel and the specific time
are stored as a current setting, and said content
selecting unit searches in said content information
database for the content information of the specific
25   time of the current setting and a channel indicated
by a request from the user terminal indicating a
relative change from the specific channel of the
current setting.

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6. The system as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the specific channel and the specific time
are stored as a current setting, and said content
selecting unit searches in said content information
database for the content information of the specific
5   channel of the current setting and a time indicated
by a request from the user terminal indicating a
relative change from the specific time of the
current setting.

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        7. The system as claimed in claim 1,
further comprising a content-selection user
15   interface which communicates with the user terminal,
and has buttons thereon for selecting channels,
wherein pressing of one of the buttons results in
the user terminal sending the request to the content
selecting unit.

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        8. The system as claimed in claim 1,
25   wherein said content-selection user interface has a
button thereon for indicating a relative shift from
a current time setting.

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        9. The system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said content-selection user interface has a

button thereon for indicating a relative shift from
a current channel setting.

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10. A method of providing contents,
comprising the steps of:

providing a content information database
10 which stores therein content information about
contents associated with broadcast programs on a
channel-and-time-specific basis that corresponds to
a channel and a time of each broadcast program, said
content information including at least one of
15 content guide information descriptive of the
contents and content location information indicative
of locations of the contents on a network;

searching in said content information
database for the content information of a specific
20 channel and a specific time in response to a request
from a user terminal indicating at least one of the
specific channel and the specific time in a direct
or indirect manner; and

providing the user terminal with the
25 contents that correspond to the content information
of the specific channel and the specific time.

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11. The method as claimed in claim 10,
wherein said step of providing the user terminal
with the contents identifies the contents by the

content location information that is included in the
content information of the specific channel and the
specific time.

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      12. A system for registering content
information, comprising:

10   a content information database which
stores therein content information about contents
associated with broadcast programs on a channel-and-
time-specific basis that corresponds to a channel
and a time of each broadcast program;

15   a registration request database which
stores therein information about availability of
sections in said content information database for
registration of the content information, and further
stores therein user IDs associated with the sections,

20 said user IDs identifying users who has been
registered for use of the sections associated with
the user IDs; and

      a registration processing unit which
searches in said registration request database to

25 check whether a section of a specific channel and a
specific time is available in response to a status
inquiry from a user terminal indicating the specific
channel and the specific time, and provides a result
of the check to the user terminal.

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13. The system as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a registered user database which stores therein the user IDs of users entitled to register the content information in said content
5 information database, wherein said registration processing unit searches in said registered user database for a user ID of a user in response to a registration request indicating the user ID that is sent from the user terminal in response to the
10 result of the check, and accepts the registration request in response to finding of the user ID in said registered user database.

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14. The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said registration processing unit stores information in said registration request database
20 upon the acceptance of the registration request to indicate that the section of the specific channel and the specific time is allocated to the user of said user ID.

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15. The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said registration processing unit stores
30 content information in said content information database with respect to the section of the specific channel and the specific time.

16. The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein said registration processing unit stores content information in said content information database that is provided concurrently with the registration request.

17. A method of registering a section for content information, comprising the steps of:

providing a content information database which stores therein content information about contents associated with broadcast programs on a channel-and-time-specific basis that corresponds to a channel and a time of each broadcast program;

providing a registration request database which stores therein information about availability of sections in said content information database for registration of the content information, and further stores therein user IDs associated with the sections, said user IDs identifying users who has been registered for use of the sections associated with the user IDs;

searching in said registration request database to check whether a section of a specific channel and a specific time is available in response to a status inquiry from a user terminal indicating the specific channel and the specific time;

providing a result of the check to the user terminal; and

storing information in the registration

request database to indicate that the section of the
specific channel and the specific time is allocated
to a user of a user ID in response to a registration
request indicating the user ID that is sent from the
5   user terminal in response to the result of the check.

10   18. A method of registering a section for
content information, comprising the steps of:
            providing a content information database
which stores therein content information about
contents associated with broadcast programs on a
15   channel-and-time-specific basis that corresponds to
a channel and a time of each broadcast program;
            providing a registration request database
which stores therein information about availability
of sections in said content information database for
20   registration of the content information, and further
stores therein user IDs associated with the sections,
said user IDs identifying users who has been
registered for use of the sections associated with
the user IDs;
25   searching in said registration request
database for at least one section that is registered
for a user of a user ID in response to a request
from a user terminal indicating the user ID;
            providing a search result indicative of
30   said at least one section to the user terminal if
said at least one section is found as a result of
the search; and
            storing content information in the content

information database with respect to a section of a
specific channel and a specific time falling within
said at least one section in response to a
registration request that is sent from the user
5   terminal in response to the search result.

10   19. A system for calculating registration
fees, comprising:
            a content information database which
stores therein content information about contents
associated with broadcast programs on a channel-and-
15   time-specific basis that corresponds to a channel
and a time of each broadcast program;
            a registration request database which
stores therein information about availability of
sections in said content information database for
20   registration of the content information, and further
stores therein user IDs associated with the sections,
said user IDs identifying users who has been
registered for use of the sections associated with
the user IDs; and
25   a registration fee charge unit which
determines an amount of fees to be charged to the
users who are registered in said registration
request database for use of the sections in said
content information database.
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20. The system as claimed in claim 19, further comprising a registered user database which stores therein user IDs and fees schedules associated therewith, wherein said registration fee

5 charge unit refers to said registered user database to check the fee schedules of the users so as to determine an amount of fees to be charged to the users.

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21. A method of calculating registration fees, comprising:

15 providing a content information database which stores therein content information about contents associated with broadcast programs on a channel-and-time-specific basis that corresponds to a channel and a time of each broadcast program;

20 providing a registration request database which stores therein information about availability of sections in said content information database for registration of the content information, and further stores therein user IDs associated with the sections,

25 said user IDs identifying users who has been registered for use of the sections associated with the user IDs; and

determining an amount of fees to be charged to the users who are registered in said

30 registration request database for use of the sections in said content information database.

22. A method of using an apparatus for
indicating a broadcast channel of user preference by
pressing one of buttons for selecting respective
broadcast channels, comprising the steps of:

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    pressing one of the buttons to request a
content associated with a broadcast program of a
corresponding channel,

    sending signals indicative of the pressing

10 of one of the buttons from said apparatus to a
computer connected to a network; and

    receiving the content by the computer
through the network.

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23. A database, comprising content
information about contents associated with broadcast

20 programs on a channel-and-time-specific basis that
corresponds to a channel and a time of each
broadcast program, said content information
including at least one of content guide information
descriptive of the contents and content location

25 information indicative of locations of the contents
on a network.